

# BAKER HOPES TO BREAK RECORDS; WILL HAVE 300 CHANCES AT BAT

He Can Put Them Very Frequently Into the Grandstand at the Polo Grounds, He Believes; Giants, Cubs, Cardinals and Pirates Believe Their Names; They Are Not What They Seem.

By FRANK G. MENKE.

NEW YORK, April 18.—J. Franklin Baker threatens to bust all existing home run records this season. The fact that he's with the Yankees entitles him to play 77 games in the Polo Grounds. That means that he'll have about 300 chances during the season to belt the horseshoe into the short right field grandstand. The grandstand in the Polo Grounds is situated to Baker's liking. Often-times in the days when he was an Athletic he lashed home runs into that portion of the seating capacity. On other occasions he walked the ball against the front of the stand for scores.

Baker was quite a long distance closer in the era when he played only 11 games per season in the Bronx ball yard. His slugging power probably will be enhanced by the fact that he'll have seven times as many chances this year to drive the ball in amongst the patrons of the pasture.

What's in a Name. The Giants aren't giants. Many of them are almost pigmies. Doyle, Burns, Burden and three or four others are far under six feet in height. The regular team, as a whole, probably doesn't average beyond 5'9" or 5'11".

The Cubs are full grown. There's Joe Tinker, who is well along in the thirties, the ancient Miner Brown and

Frank Schulte, Mike Toolan, Heinie Zimmerman, Steve Yerkes and Johnny Kling are a bit elderly too.

The Indians aren't what their name implies. They're not savages. They don't emit warwhoops or conduct scalp-hunting parties.

The Browns are not brown. The Dodgers still dodge trolley cars over in the wilds of Brooklyn, but they don't dodge the other ball clubs as they used to do in the bygone days.

Cardinals Believe Name. The Cardinals believe their name. Cardinals are not supposed to use profane language, chew tobacco or drink beer. Yet some of the Cardinals do those very things.

The Yankees aren't Yankees. Some are Irish, some German, some English and the others have something other than pure Yankee descent.

The Pirates are not thieves. You'll agree with us if you consult the base stealing records. Nor are they bold. They do not sail the seas except when they make occasional trips to Boston. Some of them have buried gold, of course, but they've earned it.

As to the Reds—well, maybe they are a bit different. Anarchists are commonly referred to as "Reds." If you don't believe that anarchy sometimes prevails in Cincinnati, ask a National League umpire.

The Reason. "Ball players now are welcomed at the best hotels," a headline informs us. It is any wonder? In the olden days most of the hotels operated on the American plan. Now they operate on the European. And you know those baseball appetites, Oscar. Can you blame the hotel managers for welcoming the advent of ball players in their dining rooms where service is a la carte?

Mexican rent collections, Lee Newman.

Adv.

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## "Beck's" Amen Corner

BY "BECK."

HIGH school baseball plans have been rather slow in maturing this season because of a lack of uniforms, bats, balls and other equipment and a scarcity of funds to buy them. However, arrangements have been made for a trip for the team next week. They will play A. and M. college at Mesilla Park on Friday, April 28, and will meet N. M. Normal at Silver City the following afternoon.

ANNUAL interclass track meet of the El Paso high school will take place at Washington park on Saturday morning and some good marks are looked for as the track and field athletes have been showing up unusually well in practice.

ARRANGEMENTS are now being completed for the annual track meet of the Grammar Schools Athletic league, which will take place at Washington park in about three weeks. "Duke" Evans has charge of the events and declares that the entries have been unusually heavy this year.

GOOD speakers are likely to be in demand in the forthcoming political campaign and we humbly put forth the claims of the six managers of Commercial league teams as real spellbinders. They should be able to draw down a bit of extra spending money as platform speakers during the campaign. Twice within a week these managers have held five hour sessions and talked themselves hoarse so they will be in good training for a hard campaign.

DONT make any guesses, between games, as to the probable lineup of your pet team in the Commercial league for its next contest. The attendance is warranting the managers spending some money in getting star players and there are six men predicting a flag for his particular club. You can imagine that there is a bit of rivalry and weekly changes of lineups are quite within the range of possibility.

BOTH Boston teams suffered defeat on Tuesday, their first this season. The Phillies have clambered into first place in the National league race but the Red Sox still maintain first place in the American.

FRANK CHANCE has his aggregation of former big leaguers out in front in the Coast league but Oakland, generally credited with having the second cheapest team in the league, is running the Angels a hot race. The result indicates that "Rowdy" Elliott is big to get as good results from a bunch of fair players as Frank Chance can get from his stars. If Chance fails to win the Coast league flag with his high priced team his star as a manager will have set.

HOME teams, incidentally they are all in the first division, copped all four games in the Southern association on Tuesday. Only two games were played in the National league but both went to the home clubs and it was the same in the Coast league. Tuesday seems to have been a bad day for visiting teams.

SOME fans argued, last fall, that Grover Cleveland Alexander was "all in" following the world's series. But "Dode" fooled them again on Tuesday when he held the Braves to five hits and a shutout. He wasn't as steady as usual, however, and walked three batters.

BENNY McNEIL is the latest arrival in this country from the English boxing ranks. He is a bantam and got his first boys in this country in St. Louis. He gave Jimmy Pappas a boxing lesson there on Saturday night and was unstinted praise from the St. Louis sporting writers. Then he jumped to New York and won decisively from Jimmy Murphy, of St. Louis, on Tuesday night. Incidentally, it was his second victory over Murphy. If McNeil can make the weight requirements of "Kid" Williams and Johnny Ertle he is likely to make these two bantams hunt cover.

LEO P. FLYNN, who gathers his meal ticket money from managing a string of fighters, sends out an offer of \$5000 for any person who will persuade Johnny Ertle, claimant of the bantam title, to get into the ring with "Battling" Lahn. He sends clippings from New York papers showing that he posted \$1000 to be given Ertle any time the St. Paul youngster gets into the ring with Lahn.

## AGGIES GOING ON BALL TRIP

Will Play the Deming High Nine on Friday and Saturday at Deming.

State College, N. M., April 18.—The State college baseball team will leave Friday morning for Deming, where they will meet the high school team Friday and Saturday afternoons. The trip will be made in automobiles and the party will be in charge of coach C. W. Russell. They will return to State college on Saturday evening.

The college nine annexed its first two games of the season, which were played with the New Mexico School of Mines team here. The Demingites are usually fast and aggressive, and even the college nine finds them worthy rivals, and the contests are especially valuable as practice.

The big games of the season for the college nine will be played at the college on Thursday and Friday, May 4 and 5, when the State university team comes here. The college nine easily won over the upstate team last season, taking the state and southwestern championships, but the university men declare that they are coming for revenge.

Following the baseball games the college and university track teams will leave for Tucson, Ariz., to participate in the big triangular track and field meet in that city on May 6.

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Adv.

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